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Saint Louis Science Center Opens *MathAlive!* on January 27

High-energy exhibition reveals real-life power of math with kid-friendly appeal

ST. LOUIS (Jan. 26, 2017) – *MathAlive!*, a special exhibition that helps guests explore the real life, fun applications of math, opens at the Saint Louis Science Center on Friday, Jan. 27. Located on the first floor of the Science Center, the FREE 5,000-square-foot exhibition brings to life a variety of different types of mathematics at work. Whether in design, application or use, the exhibition utilizes many of the things kids love most -- video games, sports, design, music, entertainment, space and robotics. This is part of the exhibition's 15-city tour, underwritten by Raytheon.

"Students often ask us how the math they are studying in school translates to the real world. *MathAlive!* demonstrates how math is all around us, and embedded in everyday life in ways that aren't always obvious," said Christian Greer, chief officer of science, education and experience, at the Saint Louis Science Center. "By interpreting math in an engaging and approachable way, *MathAlive!* sparks interest and inspires exploration. From snowboards to spaceflight, this hands-on exhibition really speaks to the next generation of STEM professionals, and challenges them to push the boundaries of what's possible."

The exhibition includes approximately 40 unique, interactive experiences, such as: designing (and playing) your own video games, taking the controls to master-engineer various aspects of a modern city, editing your own animated movies, competing against others in a mountain bike race, jumping into a 'binary dance party,' or programming and controlling *Curiosity*, NASA's next Mars rover.

"MathAlive! is designed to inspire, to spark the imagination, to reveal not only math at work, but the endless possibilities of math," said Pam Wickham, Raytheon vice president of corporate affairs and communications. "We hope this experience will help kids better understand the need for math, and motivate them to consider future careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math."

MathAlive! is designed to appeal to visitors of all ages and levels of math ability, but with particular relevance to kids grades 3-8. The exhibition was organized in direct response to the larger need to improve math proficiency among students, and inspire kids to explore and pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers.

Greer said, "MathAlive! is incredibly interactive and there has already been a great deal of anticipation and excitement about it because of the fascinating nature of its subject matter. Most people are incredibly curious about math and how it works. This exhibition will definitely inspire you to see math from a completely different perspective."

Institutional collaborators for the exhibition include NASA, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National Society of Professional Engineers, MATHCOUNTS and the Society of Women Engineers. The exhibition is featured as one of the major initiatives under MathMovesU, a national program developed by Raytheon to inspire kids to embrace mathematics as a key to their future. The exhibition is produced by Evergreen Exhibitions.

Saint Louis Science Center

The mission of the Saint Louis Science Center is to ignite and sustain lifelong science and technology learning. Named a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate in 2016, the Saint Louis Science Center features more than 700 interactive exhibits, as well as a five-story OMNIMAX® Theater, Boeing Hall and the James S. McDonnell Planetarium. For more information about the Saint Louis Science Center, please visit slsc.org.

About Raytheon

Raytheon Company, with 2016 sales of \$24 billion and 63,000 employees, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, civil government and cybersecurity solutions. With a history of innovation spanning 95 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration, C5ITM products and services, sensing, effects, and mission support for customers in more than 80 countries. Raytheon is headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts. Follow us on Twitter.

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